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Pike Says Leak Would Help CIA

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Chairman Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.) said yesterday he had no idea who leaked parts of the report of his House intelligence committee to The Village Voice, but suggested that the leak would serve the interests of the Central Intelligence Agency.

"I can't conceive of anyone on the committee or its staff who would want it to come out in this manner," Pike told reporters. "A copy was sent to the CIA. It would be to their advantage to leak it to that publication. All the leaks make the committee look bad" from the long-term view of Congress' wish to oversee the intelligence community.

Because it contains classified information, the final report has been locked up until House Speaker Carl Albert (D-Okla.) decides how and whether it should be made available to members of the House and others. Albert said yesterday that he plans to read the report in the next couple of days and that he will not be influenced in his decision by the fact that it has been made public by leak.

Rep. Robert McClory (R-Ill.), senior Republican on the committee, called the leak and publication of the report "very, very unfortunate. It will have a very destructive effect on the intelligence committee. It will damage our intelligence capability and will interfere with Congress'

intent to get full information on intelligence operations."

McClory said a major part of the responsibility for this situation must be borne by the committee staff for including classified information in the draft report, and by a majority of the committee for insisting on printing the report despite an agreement with the President not to make public classified information turned over by the executive branch. The House voted by a margin of 2 to 1 to hold up publication of the report.

McClory had strongly opposed publishing the report with the classified material included.

Rep. Robert N. Giaimo (D-Conn.), who along with Pike had favored making public the classified information about CIA secret operations, said:

"All these leaks are hurting and discrediting the committee. I have to assume that those doing it do not have the best interests of the committee at heart. It hurts our effort to gain the right to perform real oversight over these agencies.

"Who gains from this? Those trying to undo or block us. It could be people downtown or even on the committee. I don't know. Remember, the CIA is very adept at covert actions. They've lobbied everywhere against us."